

**ROCKLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
ROCKLAND, MASSACHUSETTS**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2010, 6:30 PM  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

The School Committee met on Monday, March 22, 2010, at 6:30 PM in the High School Library. Committee members present were: Mr. Norris, Mr. Mills, Mr. Mullen, and Mrs. Werkheiser. Also present were Superintendent Retchless, Assistant Superintendent Scarpelli, Mrs. Cusick, and Student Representative Jaimie Kirsliis.

Present in the audience were: Mr. Sangster, High School Principal; Ms. Bohn, new Middle School Principal; Ms. Salem, Mrs. Carey, Ms. Smith-Taylor, Mr. Murphy, members of the Middle School Principal Search Committee; and Mrs. & Mrs. Gibson.

Mr. Norris introduced Jaimie Kirsliis, High School Student Representative, and noted that Mrs. Pezzella was not present due to illness.

On motion of Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the minutes of the meeting of March 8, 2010 were accepted, unanimous.

A request from the Holy Family School to post flyers at the high school was approved on the recommendation of the Superintendent. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

A request from the Rockland Kiwanis to post flyers at the elementary schools was approved on the recommendation of the Superintendent. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

A request from the Rockland Memorial Library to post flyers at the elementary schools was approved on the recommendation of the Superintendent. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

The Superintendent reported that he addressed the SEMSBA students at the high school. The musical group represents thirty-one districts and thanks to Mr. Harden the session was hosted by Rockland for the first time since 1998. Mr. Retchless attended a workshop for Race to the Top and noted that Rockland will receive \$48,000 of Federal funds per year for the next four years. It was also announced that WRPS will air the videos of the School Committee meetings on line.

On four separate motions by Mr. Mills, seconds by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the following Financial Reports for February were accepted:

- 1) School Department
- 2) High School Student Activities
- 3) Middle School Student Activities
- 4) Cafeteria

On seventeen separate motions by Mr. Mills, seconds by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the following Monthly Reports for January/February were accepted:

- |                                  |                            |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1) Art                           | Ms. Gibson                 |
| 2) Athletic                      | Mr. Graziano               |
| 3) Day Care                      | Mrs. Veiga                 |
| 4) Deans                         | Mrs. Schipper/Mr. Damon    |
| 5) English                       | Ms. McDonough              |
| 6) Family Consumer Sci./Tech Ed. | Mr. Graziano               |
| 7) Foreign Language              | Mrs. Palmer                |
| 8) Library                       | Mrs. Linehan               |
| 9) Math                          | Mr. Casagrande             |
| 10) Music                        | Mr. Harden                 |
| 11) Radio/TV Station             | Mr. Cable-Murphy           |
| 12) Science                      | Mr. Casagrande             |
| 13) Social Studies               | Mr. Grimmatt               |
| 14) Special Education (8-12)     | Mrs. McGonnigal            |
| 15) Technology                   | Mr. Wells                  |
| 16) Title I                      | Title I Parent Coordinator |
| 17) Middle School                | Ms. Bohn                   |

Mrs. Werkheiser updated the Committee on the activities of the Building Committee including finalization of Middle School plans by the architects, meetings with high school art and technology departments and plans for the concession area. The Committee is looking into grants from National Grid and CM at risk is nearing completion with a candidate. The next meeting will be April 6<sup>th</sup> and the public is welcome to attend.

Superintendent Retchless introduced Ms. Bohn, the new Middle School Principal. It was noted that she received a Bachelor's degree from Providence, Masters from Boston College and is midway through obtaining her Doctorate. The Superintendent reviewed the selection process and introduced Mr. Scarpelli, Mr. Sangster, Ms. Salem, Mrs. Carey, Mrs. Smith-Taylor and Mr. Murphy, members of the Selection Committee. Members thanked the Committee for their efforts and welcomed Ms. Bohn and wished her well. The Superintendent announced that the new Principal of the Jefferson would be introduced at the next meeting on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

The Superintendent introduced Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Gibson who gave a demonstration of the Stop Motion Animation Center that they are donating to the High School Art Department. A \$6,000 Macintosh Computer and a \$2,000 Creative Work Center have been donated to the schools by Mr. & Mrs. Gibson in the past. The Committee thanked the Gibsons for their continued support of the schools. On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to accept the donation and to send a thank you letter.

Mr. Mullen announced that he is making a donation of \$321 for the purchase of a document camera. The money was collected from a fundraiser that was held to re-elect Mr. Mullen. Mr. Mullen thanked people who donated items for this raffle. On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Werkheiser, unanimous, it was voted to accept the donation and to send a thank you letter.

Mr. Casagrande, Math Department Chairperson, gave a demonstration of the proposed Math Program for Grades 6, 7 and 8. The program consists of textbooks and an online component. Mr. Casagrande reported that this program deals with critical thinking and problem solving. On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to table the vote until the next meeting.

Mr. Casagrande, Math Department Chairperson, reviewed the proposed High School Honors Geometry Textbook. On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to table the vote until the next meeting.

Mr. Casagrande, Math Department Chairperson, reviewed the proposed High School Honors Algebra I Textbook. On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to table the vote until the next meeting.

Mr. Retchless announced the appointment of Mr. Capone as the part-time Health teacher at the Middle School.

Ms. Kirsliis reported that scholarship information for seniors is due on Friday. It was noted that MCAS testing is being administrated this week. Mr. Norris announced the youth sports activities. It was also noted that the Middle School Shamrock Classic was very well attended this year.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas F. Mills, Jr.  
Chairman